

Charlotte Area

NC Air Awareness

[HOW TO: OPERATIONAL ACTIONS]

Reduce emissions from business operations with these strategies.

Energy conservation

- Get a free energy audit through [NC Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service](#) (DEACS)
 - Start with no cost/low cost projects
- Use lighting controls like timers and occupancy sensors
- Replace existing lighting with energy efficient fixtures
- Install programmable thermostats
- When buying new equipment, purchase Energy Star Products

Maintenance choices

- Delay peak-shaving or emergency generator testing until after 6:00p.m. or until a non-AQ Action Day
- Delay lawn maintenance activities on Air Quality Action Days
- Consider purchasing cleaner maintenance equipment
- Defer high emission or batch production activities until evening shifts or until non-Action Days

Fleet Management

- Complete an off-road equipment re-power or replacement project with assistance from Mecklenburg County Air Quality. More information at www.GRADEplus.net.
- As old vehicles are retired, use the [EPA Green Vehicle Guide](#) to replace them with the most fuel efficient equivalent
- Start a “right size” plan to make sure you are using the smallest vehicles necessary for the job. Contact Mecklenburg County Air Quality to discuss completing a fleet inventory to identify emissions reduction opportunities and measure progress.
- Consider converting a portion of your fleet vehicles to alternatives fuels, like CNG or electric.
- Adopt and enforce an anti-idling policy at your worksite and for all fleet vehicles
- Delay refueling vehicles and equipment until late in the day on Air Quality Action Days, or do so the evening before